1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of <u>content</u> ~~news~~ channels.

3. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of related ~~news~~ stories delivered on a single channel at different times.

4. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the query is received via a user interface.

5. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the query is received via an Internet browser.

6. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the query is received via an agent for pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

7. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises at least one of:

Internet-based, intra-net based, and other online forms of news and information resources;

video broadcasts;

radio broadcasts;

press release forums; and

financial forums.

8. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, wherein the EOC comprise at least one of:

    text;

    video;

    audio; and

    digital media.

9. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 37~~1~~, further comprising the ~~steps~~ step of~~:~~

    ~~summarizing text based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and~~

    creating ~~a corresponding~~ virtual summary buffers ~~buffer for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.~~

10-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 39~~12~~, wherein the digest synthesizing application comprises:

    a query handler, for receiving a query ;

    an input filter, communicatively coupled to the query handler, for separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

    a distance calculator, communicatively coupled to the input filter, for calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

    a pattern-matching filter, communicatively coupled to the distance calculator, for pattern matching each EOC.

14. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 13, ~~wherein the result set manager is further for:~~

~~concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer to create a respective concatenated EOC;~~

~~extracting context-preserving EOC from each respective concatenated EOC, the context-preserving EOC being determined based upon a respective degree of corroboration of the context preserving EOC;~~

~~synthesizing the content-preserving EOC extracted from each respective concatenated EOC into summary digests; and~~

~~presenting the summary digests, and~~

wherein the digest synthesizing application further comprises:

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the pattern-matching filter, for removing redundant sub-elements ~~from each respective concatenated EOC~~.

15. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 39~~12~~, further comprising:

~~a user interface; and~~

a user interface/event manager, communicatively coupled to the user interface and the digest synthesizing application, for receiving a user query from the user interface and presenting the result set to the user interface.

16. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 39~~12~~, further comprising an application programming interface, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for communicating with other applications.

17. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 39~~12~~, <u>further comprising a results set,</u> wherein the result set comprises:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

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18. (Currently Amended)   The system of claim 17, wherein the result set further comprises a set of virtual summary buffers, ~~and wherein the result set manager is further for:~~

~~summarizing text-based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and~~

~~creating a corresponding virtual summary buffer within the set of virtual summary buffers for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.~~

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 40~~19~~, wherein the digest synthesizing application comprises:

a query handler, for receiving a query ;

an input filter, communicatively coupled to the query handler, for separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

a distance calculator, communicatively coupled to the input filter, for calculating the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC; and

a pattern-matching filter, communicatively coupled to the distance calculator, for pattern matching each EOC.

21. (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 20, ~~wherein the result set manager is further for:~~

~~concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer to create a respective concatenated EOC;~~

~~extracting context-preserving EOC from each respective concatenated EOC, the context-preserving EOC being determined based upon a respective degree of corroboration of the context-preserving EOC;~~

~~synthesizing the content-preserving EOC extracted from each respective~~

~~concatenated EOC into summary digests; and~~

~~presenting the summary digests, and~~

wherein the digest synthesizing application further comprises:

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the pattern-matching filter, for removing redundant sub-elements ~~from each respective concatenated EOC~~.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 40~~19~~, further comprising:

~~a user interface; and~~

a user interface/event manager, communicatively coupled to the user interface and the digest synthesizing application, for receiving a user query from the user interface and presenting the result set to the user interface.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 40~~19~~, further comprising an application programming interface, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for communicating with other applications.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 40~~19~~, <u>further comprising a results set,</u> wherein the result set comprises:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the result set further comprises a set of virtual summary buffers~~, and wherein the result set manager is further for:~~

~~summarizing text based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and~~

~~creating a corresponding virtual summary buffer within the set of virtual summary buffers for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual~~

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~~buffer within the set of virtual buffers.~~

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 38~~26~~, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of <u>content</u> ~~news~~ channels.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 38~~26~~, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises a plurality of related stories delivered on a ~~news~~ single channel at different times.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 38~~26~~, wherein the query is received via a user interface.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 38~~26~~, wherein the query is received via an Internet browser.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 38~~26~~, wherein the query is received via an agent for pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 38~~26~~, wherein the plurality of information sources comprises at least one of:
Internet-based, intra-net based, and other online forms of news and information resources;
video broadcasts;
radio broadcasts;
press release forums; and
financial forums.

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33. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium of claim <u>38</u>26, wherein the EOC comprise at least one of:

> text;
>
> video;
>
> audio; and
>
> digital media.

34. (Currently Amended)   The computer readable medium of claim <u>38</u>26, further comprising computer instructions for a step ~~steps~~ of~~:~~

> ~~summarizing text-based EOC contained within each virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers to create a summarization of each respective virtual buffer; and~~
>
> creating ~~a corresponding~~ virtual summary <u>buffers</u> ~~buffer for each of a plurality of virtual buffers within the set of virtual buffers, each corresponding virtual summary buffer containing a summarization of a respective virtual buffer within the set of virtual buffers.~~

35-36. (Cancelled)

37.   (New) A method comprising the steps of:

receiving a query;

separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

tagging each EOC with metadata;

pattern matching each EOC;

calculating a distance function from every EOC to every other EOC;

providing the EOC to a set of virtual buffers, each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other;

concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer;

applying a comparative analysis filter to remove redundant sub-elements;

synthesizing summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC, the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value; and

presenting the results as summary digests, wherein the summary digests comprise color-coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

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38.   (New) A computer readable medium including computer instructions for driving a digest synthesizing application, the computer instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving a query;

separating a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC);

tagging each EOC with metadata;

pattern matching each EOC;

calculating a distance function from every EOC to every other EOC;

providing EOC to a set of virtual buffers, each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other;

concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer;

applying a comparative analysis filter to remove redundant sub-elements;

synthesizing summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC, the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value; and

presenting the results as summary digests, wherein the summary digests comprise color-coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

39. (New)   A system comprising:

a digest synthesizing application, wherein the digest synthesizing application, in response to receiving a query, separates a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC), tags each EOC with metadata, pattern matches each EOC, and calculates the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC;

a virtual buffer manager, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for providing EOC to a set of virtual buffers wherein each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other, and for concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer;

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the result set manager, adapted to remove redundant sub-elements;

a summary digest manager, coupled to the virtual buffer manager, adapted to synthesize summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC, the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value; and

a user interface, communicatively coupled to the virtual buffer manager, adapted to present results as summary digests, wherein the summary digests comprise color coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

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40. (New)   An apparatus comprising:

a digest synthesizing application, wherein the digest synthesizing application, in response to receiving a query, separates a plurality of information sources into individual elements of content (EOC), tags each EOC with metadata, pattern matches each EOC, and calculates the distance function from every EOC to every other EOC;

a virtual buffer manager, communicatively coupled to the digest synthesizing application, for providing EOC to a set of virtual buffers wherein each EOC being provided to one of the set of virtual buffers that is pre-defined to contain EOC with less than a given distance value between each other, and for concatenating the EOC in each virtual buffer;

a comparative analysis filter, communicatively coupled to the result set manager, adapted to remove redundant sub-elements;

a summary digest manager, coupled to the virtual buffer manager, adapted to synthesize summary digests by extracting context-preserving EOC, the EOC having a distance function value less than a predetermined value; and

a user interface, communicatively coupled to the virtual buffer manager, adapted to present results as summary digests, wherein the summary digests comprise color coded sub-elements of content based on the number of EOC containing that particular sub-element.

41. (New)   The method of claim 37, further comprising providing an application programming interface for communicating with other applications.

42. (New)   The method of claim 37, further comprising providing a results set, the results set comprising:

a set of tagged EOC;

a set of virtual buffers, communicatively coupled to the set of tagged EOC; and

a set of summary digests, communicatively coupled to the set of virtual buffers.

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43. (New)   The system of claim 39, further comprising an agent adapted to transmitting the query, the agent adapted to pushing relevant information to a user based on a user profile.

44. (New)   The system of claim 39, wherein the user interface comprises an Internet browser.

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